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Date: 1/15/2013

GAIN Report Number: IN3003

India

Post: New Delhi

Mandatory GM Labeling on Packaged Food

Report Categories:

Biotechnology and Other New Production

Technologies

FAIRS Subject Report

Trade Policy Monitoring

Exporter Guide

Retail Foods

Food Processing Ingredients

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Report Highlights:

On January 1, 2013, the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, formally implemented the Legal metrology (Packaged Commodities) Amendment Rules, 2012 as published in the Indian Official Gazette Notification No. G.S.R. 427(E), which stipulates that every package containing food derived from products of biotechnology shall bear at the top of its principal display panel the letters “GM.”

General Information:

On January 1, 2013, the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, formally implemented the Legal metrology (Packaged Commodities) Amendment Rules, 2012 as published in the Indian Official Gazette Notification No. G.S.R. 427(E), which stipulates that every package containing food derived from products of biotechnology shall bear at the top of its principal display panel the letters “GM.”

On June 5, 2012, the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA), Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, issued notification G.S.R. 427 (E) amending the [Legal Metrology \(Packaged Commodities\) Rules, 2011](#), effective January 1, 2013, according to the notification it has become mandatory that every packaged food containing the Genetically Modified (GM) ingredients shall bear at the top of its label (principal display panel) the letters “**GM**.” However, to date the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has issued no labeling requirements for foods derived from products of biotechnology in India.

Details of Notification:

Type of Rules: Final

Publication Date: June 5, 2012

Date of implementation: January 1, 2013

WTO Notification Date: Not notified (as of January 4, 2013)

Products Affected: Various packaged food items.

Agency in Charge: Department of Health, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India.

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